

TC2600

PK2

Organization

Bldg./Room

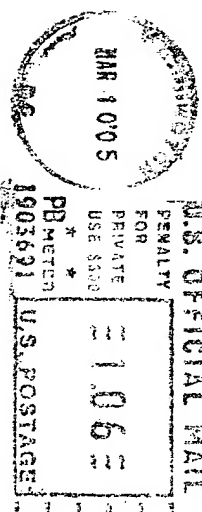
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. BOX 1450

ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

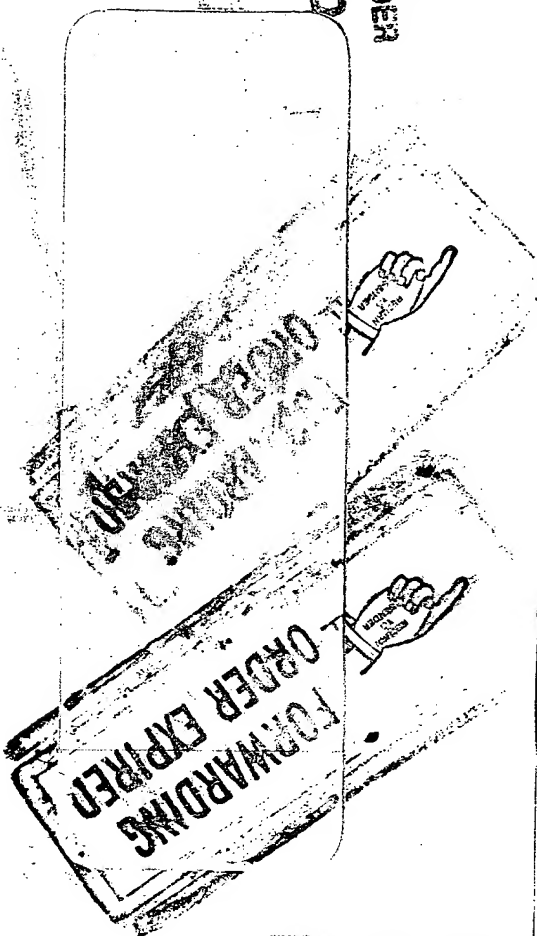
IF UNDELIVERABLE RETURN IN TEN DAYS

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

NO ORDER
NED



FORWARDING ORDER
EXPIRED

FORWARDING ORDER
EXPIRED



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/823,590	03/31/2001	Anil K. Annadata	M-11404 US	6841

7590

03/10/2005

D'ANN NAYLOR RIFAI
C/O SKJERVEN MORRILL MACPHERSON LLP
25 METRO DRIVE, SUITE 700
SAN JOSE,, CA 95110

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, QUYNH H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2642

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

RECEIVED

MAR 30 2005

Technology Center 2600

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/823,590

Applicant(s)

ANNADATA ET AL.

Examiner

Quynh H Nguyen

Art Unit

2642

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/3/02-2/26/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-4, 7-10, and 13-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dilip et al. (U.S. Patent 6,704,409).

As to claims 1, 7, and 15, Dilip et al. teach an apparatus for coordinating communication between one or more agents (Fig. 2, agent1...agentn 46) and a plurality of communication channels (Fig. 2, 56-66) associated with different media formats (col. 4, lines 38-43), the apparatus comprising: means for receiving a first request in a first media format (e-mail, Internet) via a first communication channel (col. 4, lines 46-64); means for receiving a second request in a second media format (fax, voice) via a second communication channel (col. 4, lines 46-61); means for determining the media formats the one or more agents can access (col. 5, lines 9-16 and col. 11, lines 20-21); and means for assigning the one or more agents to handle the first and second requests based on the media formats of the first and second requests and the media formats the one or more agents can access (col. 5, lines 57-67).

Art Unit: 2642

As to claim 2, 8, and 16, Dilip et al. teach means for assigning the one or more agents to handle the first and second requests based on the subject matter of the first and second requests and the skills associated with the one or more agents (col. 5, line 57 through col. 6, line 6).

As to claims 3, 9, and 17, Dilip et al. teach means for queuing the requests (col. 10, line 44) until one of the one or more agents is available to accept the requests (col. 13, lines 27-40).

As to claims 4, 10, and 18, Dilip et al. teach means for assigning the requests to the agents based on a set of rules (col. 13, lines 34-51).

As to claims 13 and 14, Dilip et al. teach a computer readable storage media and a signal in a carrier medium comprising instructions to implement the method of claim 7 (col. 15, lines 20-31).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5-6, 11-12, and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dilip et al. (U.S. Patent 6,704,409) in view of Miloslavsky (U.S. Patent 5,915,011).

Art Unit: 2642

As to claims 5-6, 11-12, and 19-20 Dilip et al. do not teach means for allowing an agent to decline being assigned to the first or second requests, and to route a request assigned to the agent to another agent.

Miloslavsky teaches agent reroute the call to the next agent who is more qualified to handle the call (col. 16, line 59 through col. 17, line 49).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the feature of allowing an agent to decline or route a request to another agent, as taught by Miloslavsky, in Dilip's system so that customer would receive the best service from an agent who has specific skills and knowledge and is able and ready to provide the needed service.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Sonesh et al. (U.S. Patent 6,046,762) teach multimedia telecommunication automatic call distribution system.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quynh H. Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-5451. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 6:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

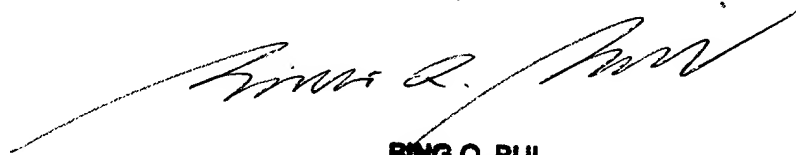
Art Unit: 2642

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on (703) 305-4731. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

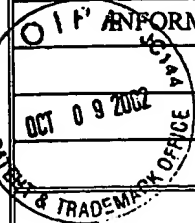
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

qhn

Quynh H. Nguyen
March 3, 2005



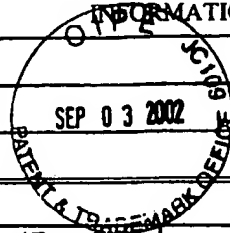
BING Q. BUI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office						Atty Docket No.		Serial No.	
						SBL0001US		09/823,590	
						Applicants			
(Use several sheets if necessary)						Anil K. Annadata, et al.			
						Filing Date		Group	
						March 31, 2001		283 2642	
U.S. Patent Documents									
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate		
QN	AA	5,828,882	Oct. 27, 1998	Hinckley	71395	318 680			
QN	AB	5,805,886	Sep. 8, 1998	Skarbo et al.	71395	318 685			
QN	AC	5,734,852	Mar. 31, 1998	Zias et al.	71395	744 334			
QN	AD	6,154,209	Nov. 28, 2000	Naughton et al.	71345	764 329			
	AE								
	AF								
	AG								
	AH								
	AI								
	AJ								
	AK								
Foreign Patent Documents									
							Translation		
		Document	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No	
	AL								
	AM								
	AN								
	AO								
	AP								
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
	AQ								
	AR								
	AS								
Examiner		Date Considered							
Quynh Nguyen		3/1/05							
<p>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.</p>									

RECEIVED

OCT 18 2002

GROUP 3600

U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office						Atty Docket No.		Serial No.	
						SBL0001US		09/823,590	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)						Applicant(s)			
						Anil K. Annadata, et al.			
						Filing Date		Group	
						March 31, 2001		21832642	
U.S. Patent Documents									
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate		
AN	AA	5,884,032	March 16, 1999	Bateman, et al.	709.98	264200.34			
AN	AB	6,134,318	Oct. 17, 2000	O'Neil	379	266.01			
	AC								
	AD								
	AE								
	AF								
	AG								
	AH								
	AI								
	AJ								
	AK								
Foreign Patent Documents									
							Translation		
		Document	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No	
	AL								
	AM								
	AN								
	AO								
	AP								
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
	AQ								
	AR								
	AS								
Examiner		Date Considered							
Anuph Nguyen		3/1/05							

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office					Atty Docket No.		Serial No.	
					SBL0001US		09/823,590	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT					Applicants			
(Use several sheets if necessary)					Anil K. Annadata, et al.			
Filing Date					Group			
March 31, 2001					21832642			
U.S. Patent Documents								
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
QN	AA	5,754,830	May 19, 1998	Butts et al.	71295	268500 311		
QN	AB	5,964,836	Oct. 12, 1999	Rowe et al.	709	221		
QN	AC	6,199,104 B1	Mar. 6, 2001	Delph	709	208 208		
	AD							
	AE							
	AF							
	AG							
	AH							
	AI							
	AJ							
	AK							
Foreign Patent Documents								
		Document	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
QN	AQ	Copy of International Search Report as mailed from the PCT on February 28, 2003 for co-related WO Application (PCT/US02/31152; Filed 30 September 2002), 5 pages.						
	AR							
	AS							
Examiner		Date Considered						
Quynh Nguyen		3/1/05						
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.								

RECEIVED

MAY 18 2003
GROUP 3600RECEIVED
MAY 02 2003

Technology Center 2100

U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office					Atty Docket No.		Serial No.	
					SBL0001US		09/823,590	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT					Applicants			
(Use several sheets if necessary)					Anil K. Annadata, et al.			
					Filing Date		Group	
					March 31, 2001		2183 2642	
U.S. Patent Documents								
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
	AA							
	AB							
	AC							
	AD							
	AE							
	AF							
	AG							
	AH							
	AI							
	AJ							
	AK							
Foreign Patent Documents								
							Translation	
		Document	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
QW	AQ	Copy of International Search Report as mailed from the PCT on July 12, 2002, for International Application No. PCT/US02/09879, 4 pages.						
QW	AR	Copy of International Search Report as mailed from the PCT on September 4, 2002, for International Application No. PCT/US02/10191, 4 pages.						
	AS							
Examiner					Date Considered			
Duyunh Nguyen					3/1/05			
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.								

RECEIVED

JUN 25 2003

Technology Center 2100

RECEIVED

JUL 01 2003

GROUP 3600

U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office					Atty Docket No.		Serial No.	
					SBL0001US		09/823,590	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT					Applicants			
(Use several sheets if necessary)					Anil K. Annadata, et al.			
					Filing Date		Group	
					March 31, 2001		2832642	

U.S. Patent Documents							
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
QN	AA	5,506,898	4/1996	Costantini et al.	379	266,06	
QN	AB	6,064,730	5/2000	Ginsberg	379	265,09	
QN	AC	6,263,066	7/2001	Shtivelman et al.	379	266,06	
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

Foreign Patent Documents							Translation	
		Document	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
	AQ	
	AR	
	AS	

Examiner <i>Quynh Nguyen</i>	Date Considered <i>3/1/05</i>
------------------------------	-------------------------------

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office		Atty Docket No.	Serial No.
NOV 1 0 2003		SBL0001US	09/823,590
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Applicants	
(Use several sheets if necessary)		Anil K. Annadata et al.	
		Filing Date	Group
		March 31, 2001	2832642

U.S. Patent Documents

*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
Q N	AA	6,199,104	March 6, 2001	Delph.	709	208	
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

RECEIVED

NOV 13 2003

Technology Center 2100

Foreign Patent Documents


							Translation	
		Document	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AQ	
	AR	
	AS	

Examiner Quynh Nguyen Date Considered 3/1/05

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office						Atty Docket No.		Serial No.	
						SBL0001US		09/823,590	
 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)						Applicants			
						Anil K. Annadata et al.			
						Filing Date		Group	
						March 31, 2001		2183 2642	
U.S. Patent Documents									
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate		
QN	AA	5,555,365	Sep. 10, 1996	Selby et al.	715395	765155			
QN	AB	5,894,512	Apr. 13, 1999	Zenner	379	265,02			
	AC								
	AD								
	AE								
	AF								
	AG								
	AH								
	AI								
	AJ								
	AK								
Foreign Patent Documents									
							Translation		
		Document	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No	
	AL								
	AM								
	AN								
	AO								
	AP								
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
	AQ								
	AR								
	AS								
Examiner		Date Considered							
Anurag Nguyen		3/1/05							
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.									

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 09/823,590	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination ANNADATA ET AL.	
	Examiner Quynh H Nguyen	Art Unit 2642	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-6,046,762	04-2000	Sonesh et al.	348/14.11
	B	US-5,915,011	06-1999	Miloslavsky, Alec	379/219
	C	US-6,704,409	03-2004	Dilip et al.	379/265.02
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.